

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant	Fang Lei
Serial No. 10/	Filing Date: January 26, 2004
Title of Application:	Image Transmission System From Three Rod Lenses For Rigid Endoscopes

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 Post Office Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Preliminary Amendment**

Applicant herewith presents its amendment and remarks. Please amend the claims as detailed below.

**In the Claims**

1. (Currently Amended) Image transmission system for rigid endoscopes and similar viewing tubes with a center rod lens (10') and two outer rod lenses (20, 30; 20", 30"; 20xx, 30xx; 20"xx, 30"xx), which are symmetrical to one another with respect to a center plane (100) of the image transmission system that is perpendicular to the optical axis, wherein

all lens elements (11', 12', 13', 21, 31; 32'; 23xx, 21'xx, 31'xx, 33xx; 21", 22", 31", 32") consist in each case of optically homogeneous material,

all optically active surfaces (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8) are spherical,

the center rod lens (10') consists of a rod lens main element (11') and lens elements (12', 13') cemented to it, resulting in a biconvex connecting rod lens (10'), and

the outer rod lenses (20, 30; 20", 30"; 20xx, 30xx; 20"xx, 30"xx) are biconvex, wherein

the rod lenses (10'; 20, 30; 20", 30"; 20xx, 30xx; 20"xx, 30"xx) are vertex-to-vertex adjacent to one another and

the center rod lens (10') is essentially of the same length as, or longer than, the outer rod lenses (20, 30; 20", 30"; 20xx, 30xx; 20"xx, 30"xx).